

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

/114 R

DRAFTED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS:VB

APPROVED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS

H- MR. SCHEE (INFO)

DOD/ISA:DR. SHIELDS (SUBSTANCE)

S/S - WHLUERS

----- 115478

O R 282354Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

CHMN USDEL FPJMT SAIGON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

COMUSSAG THAILAND

CDR JCRC THAILAND

DAO SAIGON

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, LA, CB, VS, VN

SUBJECT: SENATE HEARINGS ON PW/MIA'S

1. LARGE NUMBER OF MIA RELATIVES ATTENDED SENATE FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEE OPEN HEARING JAN. 28 ON PROBLEM OF
ACCOUNTING FOR AMERICANS STILL MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

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SEN. FULBRIGHT CHAIRED SESSION, WITH MAJORITY OF COMMITTEE

IN ATTENDANCE (SYMINGTON, MCGOVERN, CHURCH, PELL, AIKEN, JAVITS, PEARSON, PERCY, CASE OF N.J. AND GRIFFIN OF MICH.).

2. MAIN THEME SOUNDED BY SENATORS AND PUBLIC WITNESSES WAS OUTRAGE AND CONCERN AT NORTH VIETNAM'S FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT MIA AND RETURN OF REMAINS PROVISION OF VIETNAM AGREEMENT. THREE MIA RELATIVE WITNESSES REQUESTED RENEWED EFFORTS BY USG TO PRESS HANOI ON THIS SUBJECT AND CALLED FOR GREATER PUBLIC ATTENTION TO MIA PROBLEM IN HOPE THIS WOULD HELP ELICIT INFORMATION.

3. STATE AND DEFENSE WITNESSES (SIEVERTS, D/PW AND SHIELDS, DOD/ISA) DESCRIBED CONTINUING USG EFFORTS THROUGH JCRC AND FPJMT, AND IN LAOS, TO OBTAIN INFORMATION AND REMAINS. ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO PROCLAMATION OF "MIA AWARENESS DAY" BY PRESIDENT JAN. 27.

4. HEARING WAS MARKED BY BURSTS OF APPLAUSE FROM FAMILY MEMBER AUDIENCE IN CROWDED HEARING ROOM FOR DEMANDS BY MIA RELATIVE WITNESSES AND SENATORS THAT USG TAKE MORE VIGOROUS ACTION TO PRESS HANOI ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. GROUP OF 200 FAMILY MEMBERS HELD "VIGIL" AT WHITE HOUSE JAN. 27 TO REQUEST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT, STATING THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO CIRCLE WHITE HOUSE IN TWO MOTOR CAMPERS UNTIL HE AGREES TO SEE THEM. AS OF EVENING JAN. 28 CAMPERS WERE STILL CIRCLING. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
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